

16 Belgrave Road Clifton

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1879

My dear Mr Garrison,

You have so loaded me with benefits that - I know not where to begin in my record of thanks! There is that beautiful photograph of our valued friend George Thompson, and the notices you sent to the paper at the time of his death. And now, on my return from spending Christmas with my aged relatives, I find another likeness & Memoir of him in "Harper's Weekly", directed to me in your own handwriting. And meanwhile what a treasure you sent me in that Boston Almanac so filled with information, of the exact kind I wanted to enable me to "realize" the changes which the last ten







years have effected in your noble  
 city! It makes me long more than  
 ever to see them for myself & to rejoin  
 the dear Friends who reside there.  
 But at present that must not be,  
 My Aunt-M<sup>rs</sup> Mitchell has become  
 very dependent on my companionship  
 & she would be miserable for me to be  
 on the other side of the Atlantic - I have  
 been spending nearly a month with  
 her & the dear Uncle, her brother, Dr J. W.  
 Bagshot, who is waiting in weakness  
 & isolation (tho' deafness) for his great-  
 change - I could not write to you  
 while there, tho' I aimed daily to do  
 so, to thank you for the Almanac &  
 its very pretty enclosure - Thank  
 you & dear Frank too for your com-  
 bined Christmas greeting. I wish I had  
 made an entry of your birthday







that I might have greeted with as bright a misprision, the completion of your 73<sup>rd</sup> year! But you will ever at this late date accept my affectionate congratulations and my best new years wishes.

I read a letter from you to (I presume) Dr. <sup>Wm</sup> Venture, which was printed in the Shield - It always cheers us to have your words of sympathy. I know not if you have had our Ladies National Report for this year - but I shall send you a copy, as I know you will kindly give it to some of our sympathisers in your country if you do not care to have it - Perhaps the Editor of the Woman's Journal may not have received it. My relatives claims have



that I might have been called with a  
light a minute, the consequence  
of your 13 year, but your will  
at the late date, excepting  
conspicuous and any last  
years in order.

from your to (presumably) the  
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to which you please me to have your  
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taken me away from the share I usually  
 undertake in connexion with the L.N.A.  
 Reports, & this leaves me uncertain  
 what-others have done — Our <sup>Repeat</sup> work  
 must be in special emergencies,  
 like Exeter, & in general arousing  
 of unwarped minds this year. We  
 shall have little chance of a hearing  
 in Parliament, as Sir H. Johnstone's  
 "Day" is not till July 30<sup>th</sup>; But the  
 present Parliament is sure to be  
 hostile to our Cause & the discussion  
 would have come to but little in  
 any case. Our Political world  
 is so dark & troubled that the  
 subject is too painful to write  
 about — It is so lamentable that our  
 Country should be dragged by such a  
 leader as Beaconsfield into such a wicked



leading as the movement into west - north  
country should be thought of as an

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course! Such a retrograde from the Washington Treaty, and Arbitration policy that we hoped would then supersede the resort to arms - And for us to be the unpunished aggressors - in this case! "Thieves", perhaps is the best word, as Naboth's vineyard is the accepted illustration of the "scientific frontier" theory. And our distress from Bank failures, and trade depression, and inclement weather with attendant sickness & want amongst large portions of the population makes this a dreary winter - Things are so bad that we must hope they will teach some of the serious lessons of where the wrong lies, which will lead to reforms in many directions when the tide once begins to turn. You will doubtless have seen accounts of our hard frosts



I hope to write to him before long. He does not owe me a letter. I have only sent him brief notes in reply to his full & delightful communications. Have you heard of the serious illness of our dear friend Mr Steinthal? He is very sad tho' the last report was improved.

The Prestons & Mrs Turner are well & busy as ever - Other friends here are as usual save from trouble thro' the ~~Worcester~~ Bank - Ever dear Mr Garrison believe me

Affectionately & gratefully yours  
Mary Estlin



and deep snows - stopping trains & causing deaths - All more like your winters than ours - But to those of us who are not unduly exposed it is more genial & healthful than the moist mild winters of the two preceding years -

I rejoice to hear that you keep pretty well - Pray excuse this badly written letter. I began at night just after getting home from Langport - that it might be sure to be in time for the Cunard steamer which involves posting it to-day. I found a long letter from Mrs Chapman! So kind and affectionate! The first I have had for years. She tells me of her Mother's death & the departure of other dear relatives & friends - and dwells on a proposed monument to Harriet Martineau on whom her mind still rests with intense feeling. Almost absorbed I should gather from her tone -

My love & best thanks to dear Frank



